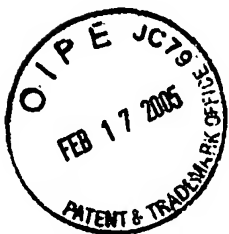


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Attorney Docket No: 101384-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : VANDEZANDE, KIRK ET AL
SERIAL NO. : 10/629380
FILED : July 29, 2003
FOR : HIERARCHICAL OPTIMIZATION FOR PROCEDURAL EFFECTIVENESS
GROUP ART UNIT : 1631
EXAMINER : ZHOU, SHUBO
CUSTOMER NO. : 27388

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS LETTER

SIR:

The records of the undersigned indicate that the above identified application should have been taken up for action by the Patent Office. No action, however, has as yet been received, so that the Patent Office's advice as to the status of the application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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